

JUNE 29.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Sixteen members present.

The resignation of William M. Wilson as a member was read and accepted.

*On an Extinct Vulturine Bird.*—Prof. COPE exhibited the fossilized skeleton of a vulturine bird of prey from the marls of the Loup Fork Epoch, near Santa Fe, which had been described as *Cathartes umbrosus*, Cope. The beak had been broken off at the base, and the fractured surface did not display the septum characteristic of the true vultures. On removing the matrix from the nostrils Prof. Cope had discovered that the osseous septum is present but short, hence the species must be referred to the vulturine division of the *Falconidæ*, and not to the *Cathartidæ*, and the species called *Vultur umbrosus*; it was about as large as the "king vulture" (*Cathartes papa*) of Mexico. The true vultures do not exist at present in the western hemisphere, and the present determination adds one more old world type to the extinct fauna of the United States. The genus *Vultur* is now associated in Africa and India with *Rhinoceros*, camels, horses, etc. as in the period of the late tertiary in New Mexico.

Isaac R. Hinckley was elected a member. Prof. Luigi Bombecci Porta, of Bologna, and Prof. Paolo Mantovanni, of Rome, were elected correspondents.

The committee to which it had been referred recommended the following paper to be published:—